

Boston Vintage Sports Flashback

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JUNE 16, 1951

STEPHENS PACES SOX 10-5

His 2 Homers, Vollmer's Whip Garer, Browns

By Jack Barry, The Boston Globe

Vern Stephens, enjoying his greatest Spring season in years, finally caught up with Ned Garver. Having permitted the Red Sox but two runs in 18 innings of night pitching in St. Louis, the crack young Brownie righthander succumbed to Stephens' long-ball hitting with men on base yesterday afternoon at Fenway Park.

The Sox turned back Garver and the Browns, 10 to 5, on six hits, two of them homers by Stephens to account for five runs. Clyde Vollmer also hit a three-run homer.

Maurice McDermott, rusty from pitching only seven innings in two weeks, labored throughout the tilt. He made 170 pitches and gave seven passes.

McDermott fanned nine, however, making his season's total 64, one behind league leader Vic Raschi of the Yanks.

Stephens, made to look extremely bad by Garver in St. Louis, won the game with his second homer. It cleared the wall and came with Billy Goodman and Ted Williams aboard. They had walked.

Walks Damaging

Garver was ahead of Stephens, two strikes and one ball, when he tried to throw a fast-ball past him.

Vollmer's homer, his third, came after Williams and Stephens had walked. Garver had a run of 16 scoreless innings against the red Sox, until Stephens connected in the second.

Jim Delsing doubled to open the first and scored on Ray Coleman's single for the Brownies. The visitors tallied in the fourth on a walk to Sherm Lollar, Dale Long's bingle and Fred Marsh's fielder's choice.

A walk to Johnny Bero, preceded two-baggers by Delsing and Bob Young for a pair in the fifth and the final Brownie run came when Ken Wood whacked his fourth homer into the nets in the eighth.

Williams pushed a left-field single against the shift to open the second and tallied on Stephens' two-ball, no-strike homer into the screens. A single by Bobby Doerr, walk to Vollmer, Les Moss' sacrifice and McDermott's grounder, tallied the third Sox run in this inning. Young had an "out" at the plate here, but bobbled McDermott's soft grounder and could make only a play

at first.

Bero, who experienced a weird day with three errors, threw Stephens' grounder into the Sox dugout to open the fourth and Vern scored after a walk to Doerr, a sacrifice and Moss' long fly.

With two down, in the fifth Garver's key pitch went against him and perhaps cost him the three runs. There were two down when Ned walked Goodman on the three-two pitch. The Brownie chucker followed by passing Williams and feeding Stephens the home run pitch.

RED SOCKINGS

Ray Scarborough and Mel Parnell will pitch in today's twin bill against southpaw Bill Kennedy and either Al Widmar or Jim Sucheck

* * *

Paul Lehner, kidding with scribes before the game about his recent switching around the American League. "Ah, it ain't the uniform that makes the man. . . But it didn't take that Overmire long to get to New York."

* * *

McDermott, in six starts, has pitched four complete games to tie Mel Parnell. . . Sox pitchers have finished 16 games in 53 attempts.

JUNE 29, 1976

WISE'S SECOND ONE-HITTER, DILLARD'S BAT BEAT ORIOLES

30,054 see Sox win in 8th, 2-0

By Peter Gammons, The Boston Globe

When it first appeared, taped to the dugout wall Monday night, this lineup looked like someone had chucked nine buckets of paint at a canvas. In frustration and in rage.

But what appeared to be madness has, in 30 hours, been adjudged artistic genius. For after Monday's 29-hit, 20-run

revolution that brought baseball back to New England, came another 11-on-a-scale-of-10 game that kept the 30,054 fixed to their seats in a different name.

This was a game of brilliant pitching, of Rick Wise going into the sixth with a perfect game and finishing with his second one-hitter in the month. But because of Mike Cuellar, it was 0-0 going into the eighth, and thus Fenway projected itself in a more tense way than any 29-hit evening, for every pitch to every batter, with that wind blowing out, had a chance of fluttering into the screen.

This was a game of outstanding defensive plays and pitching, and in the eighth the spell was finally broken when Steve Dillard doubled off Cuellar to drive in a run, and Fred Lynn singled Wise and the Red Sox a 2-0 victory over the Orioles. That leaves the Sox one percentage point behind Baltimore and 9 1/2 games behind New York.

Wise (8-5) has, in his eight starts following a disastrous four-game streak (15 IP, 33 H, 19 ER), thrown two one-hitters and a two-hitter. This one was broken up by Paul Blair leading off the sixth, a single up the middle on a 2-and-0 fastball; it wasn't as frustrating as the game last July 2 in Milwaukee when he was within an out of the no-no, but more so than the other two games in this streak: the one-hitter June 14 in Minnesota was a Jerry Terrell infield dribbler in the third, the two-hitter against Detroit May 24 had its hits in the first and third innings.

Cuellar (4-8), once again recalling Bill Lee's description (throws old grapfruits, and have you ever tried to hit a grapfruit very far?), entered the eighth with a four hitter of his own. Dwight Evans led off with Orioles left fielder Andres Mora likes to play on the other side of the Mexican border. Cecil Cooper moved Evans up with a perfect sacrifice bunt and it brought up Dillard.

The Tupelo Honey - yes, Jimmy, it's the year of the Southerner - had already had a single, stolen base and good play in the hole, and here he hopped on a pitch out away from him and lined it into right-center. "That," said Dillard, "is my biggest hit in the major leagues." As Blair slipped going for it, Dillard was on second, and after fighting off an entire fruit market of junk, Lynn lined his single into center and Wise had his two runs.

Only two runs, with the wind blowing out in this ballpark, means as little as a yellow traffic light in this town. And when Wise ("I started rushing myself and got up") walked pinch hitter Alonzo Bumbry to lead off the ninth and had two more lefty pinch hitters following, the tension built.

Tony Muser then bounced one to Cooper at first. Coop stepped on the bag for the sure out on Muser, the potential tying run, and fired to Rick Burleson. The throw was late, only Bumbry thought he was supposed to be taking The Rooster out of a double play plot, so he bounced into Burleson and off the bag. Burleson held the ball, Bumbry was out, and Wise blew three strikes past Terry Crowley to finish it.

In his career, Wise has four one-hitters to go with the no-hitter he threw against the Reds in 1971. It is redundant to keep asking how he can get hit so hard for a streak, then be so overpowering in another streak. But no one asked Willie Mays why he hit in streaks.

Wise had help. Lynn made a good leaping catch at the center field wall off Reggie Jackson in the first, Fisk made two excellent catches on foul pops, one diving into the seats. And the infield, the mongrel horde, had a Dillard play in the hole on Brooks Robinson ("he covers an awful lot of ground" - Darrell Johnson), a tough barehand play by Rico Petrocelli charging a Mora chopper to his left and, finally, a double play when Rico made the pivot despite a throw from Dillard that sailed into his

rib cage. "I felt a little better today," said Rico. "Against righthanders, it looks so far away. I'm lucky, I've had help. Doug Griffin worked with me, and I've watched Denny Doyle and Grich."

And the fans, who had been watching glue dry for two months, have felt something for the first time since October.

JUNE 28, 1990

CLEMENS HELPS RED SOX SWEEP AWAY BLUE JAYS

By Steve Fainaru, The Boston Globe

The Red Sox concluded the dramatic retaking of Fenway Park last night, completing a four-game sweep of the Toronto Blue Jays. Before Monday, the Jays had won 15 consecutive games here, but as the week progressed, they became increasingly flustered while the Red Sox' confidence soared to levels last seen when the team was unbeatable at Fenway during the 1988 season.

Everyone from manager Joe Morgan to league president Bobby Brown reminded that it is still early, but the 4-3 victory, on the most beautiful night in recent memory, extended Boston's lead to 3 1/2 games in the American League East. Within the division, the Sox are 25-12, 17-4 at home. More than anything, the series depicted two teams moving in opposite directions.

The Red Sox' seven-game winning streak tied a season high and boosted their record in June to 20-7. Roger Clemens (12-3) allowed eight hits in eight innings, struck out nine and was simply frightening at times. "In the first inning, he was throwing aspirin tablets," said plate umpire Larry McCoy, a 19-year veteran. "I've never seen anybody throw that hard." Clemens sent second baseman Nelson Liriano to the hospital for X-rays by hitting him on the right wrist in the sixth inning, an incident that caused tension to escalate to the point where McCoy warned both benches after righthander Todd Stottlemire hit Dwight Evans in the eighth. Jeff Reardon (save No. 13) finished it off in the ninth as Clemens tied Oakland's Bob Welch for the major league lead in victories.

Mike Greenwell, who is gathering confidence by the game, had the critical hit, a clean two-run single off Stottlemire in a three-run fifth. He also threw out catcher Greg Myers, who represented the tying run at the plate, on Wilson's single in the sixth inning. He said, "It's an incredible feeling. We're doing everything we need to do to win right now."

The Sox' performance was juxtaposed against the Blue Jays, who, according to center fielder Mookie Wilson, played "our worst fundamental baseball of the season." Except for amazing Fred McGriff, who accounted for all three runs with momentous homers off Clemens in the second and sixth innings, Toronto was every bit as erratic and confused as it was the entire week.

Wilson, disoriented by the Wall and approaching left fielder George Bell, dropped a fly ball at the warning track in the seventh. He also overthrew cutoff man McGriff in the Sox' killer inning. Toronto's night was summed up by the announcement that shortstop Tony Fernandez, who was 3 for his last 30, had left the game in the fifth because he wasn't feeling well.

"This was a big series, whether you want to admit it or not," said Wilson. "We came in a half-game ahead and now we're 3 1/2 games out. That's a significant swing. You can say it's not even the All-Star break and that it's only June, but at the end of the season, you can't ever get these games back."

The Blue Jays tonight open a four-game series against Oakland at the SkyDome, where they are one game above .500 this season. The Sox, who have yet to lose on this homestand, have a four-game series against the struggling Texas Rangers, with their offense clicking like at no other time this year.

In the four games against Toronto, Boston batted .315 and averaged 6.5 runs. Stottlemire (8-7), who had won four straight, fared better than Toronto's previous starters, but he was done in by Wade Boggs, who led off the Boston first with his fifth homer, Tony Pena's freakish double over first in the fifth, and finally Greenwell's single.

Pena also made the play of the night just before the Sox' big rally. With Wilson on third in the fifth and Fernandez at bat, Clemens threw an outside forkball in the dirt. Pena moved outside and blocked it perfectly, preventing the run. "Seriously, I don't know how I did it," he said. Clemens then struck out Fernandez, ending the inning.

Ellis Burks led off the rally with a low double off the Wall, finishing it off with a headfirst slide. Pena, handcuffed on a pitch, inside-outed it, and the ball bounced directly over first base for a freakish double, allowing Burks to score.

Luis Rivera followed with his second hit, a single to center. He moved to second when Wilson overthrew McGriff. The Jays then ordered Stottlemire to walk Boggs intentionally, loading the bases for Jody Reed. He popped out to second, but Greenwell then lashed the two-run single to center.

As he emerges from his season-long slump -- he is hitting .409 over the past five games -- Greenwell is obviously more aggressive. He hit the first pitch from Stottlemire, an offspeed pitch. "That's the way it is when you're going good," he said. "I thought he was going to throw it and he threw it. That's the way I'm going to be now. More aggressive. I may not get the hit every time, but I've been making contact."

JULY 4, 1924

TWO FINE GAMES GO TO CRIPPLED BRAVES

McNamara and Genewich Pitch Great Ball in Drubbing Robins, 5-1 and 1-0

By James C. O'Leary, The Boston Globe

The Braves, with a makeshift team, won both games of the doubleheader with Brooklyn yesterday, and moved up into sixth place. The score in the first game was 5 to 1, and the second, 1 to 0. About 10,000 fans, including the "Knot Hole Gang" were out to see the double bill, and the games were worth seeing. It was too bad that a greater number were not on hand to enjoy them.

Tim McNamara and Joe Genewich provided the Braves with some first class pitching, which helped the badly crippled team immensely. McNamara, who has shown up well in his last three starts in Boston should have had a shut out, the handling of

a run up play between first and second, which allowed a runner to reach second, who would not have done so had the play been properly executed, making possible the visitors only run.

Genewich not only pitched effectively, but was given fine support, especially by Bobbie Smith, who turned in two sensational plays. Only three scattered hits were made by the Robins, who are a free hitting bunch, and the fact that Genewich paralyzed them so effectually in his first game in nearly three weeks would make it appear that he is in really good shape for the first time since the season opened.

Osborne Beats Himself

Osborne, who was opposed to him in the box, also pitched in a masterly manner. Only three hits were made off him, two of them coming in the sixth frame, but hits did not in any way enter into the development of the solitary run scored against him, which won the game.

It was a pity, too, that having done such a wonderful hurling job, he alone should have been responsible for his down fall. A base on balls, and a wild throw by himself, after fielding a sacrifice, allowed the man he had walked to score from first base.

Doak, who worked in the first game for the Robins, was not given good support in the opening inning, when a couple of errors, allowed the Braves to put over a couple of unearned runs, and in the seventh inning he suddenly lost control, and had to be relieved.

The shortstops, Smith for the Braves, and Johnston for the Robins, together with Bill Cunningham and McInnis, furnished the fielding features, a one-handed jumping catch by Smith in the second game being the most sensational play of the day.

Hunter Lane, a utility infielder recalled from Worcester, made a difficult and mighty important catch of Johnson's foul fly in the ninth inning of the second game, when the head of the Robins wrecking crew was up, and the Braves had a margin of only one run.

"Micky" O'Neil was slightly hurt when Tom Griffith slid into the plate, but he got his man, and after a short breathing spell resumed play and went through.

The final game of the series will be played this afternoon, after which the Braves will start on a long road trip, which will include a whirl through the West, on which it is hoped that Bancroft will accompany them, or join them in the early stages of the invasion.

McNamara Effective

Tim McNamara, who in his most recent starts in Boston had won from Philadelphia, 9 to 4, and from Pittsburg, 1 to 0, was sent after the first game yesterday and brought home the bacon. He kept the hits off the Brooklyn sluggers well scattered, and they ought not to have had a run.

The Braves got the benefit of a couple of bobbles by Jimmy Johnston, who does not make them often. In the first inning he mused up Felix' slow boulder, a tough one to handle. Cunningham grounded to High and Felix was forced at second. Johnston in attempting to complete a double play threw wild to first base, allowing Cunningham to take second. Bill went to third on Stengel's out at first and second on a single by McInnis; Padgett doubled to center, scoring McInnis.

After that until the sixth it was a duel between McNamara and Doak, neither side scoring. In the sixth, though, Johnston led off with a double and was trapped between second and third on Wheat's grounder to McNamara and run down by Lane and Smith,

but not until Wheat had been able to make second, from where he scored on a single by Brown. The Robins never threatened again.

In the Braves' half of the seventh, with one down, O'Neil singled, and Doak lost control. He passed McNamara and Felix, and hit Cunningham with a pitched ball, forcing O'Neil over the plate. Henry, a left-hander, then took over the job, and Leslie Mann was sent up to bat in place of Stengel. "Les" fouled to Fournier, but McInnis was there with the goods and singled to center putting McNamara and Felix over.

Second Game a Gem

There was little except the pitching and the two catches of Smith of line drives and one of a fly by lane in the second game.

Genewich was airtight and so was Graham, so far as the pitchng was. The only run of this game came in the eighth, when Osborne passed stengel, the first batter up. McInnis dumped the ball to Osborne's left for the sacrifice. The big hurler fumbled the ball and then picking it up hurled it with the speed of a rifle bullet to get McInnis at first. The throw was wild and the ball went out to the right-field bleacher fence, Stengel scoring from first, and McInnis making third. Neither Padgett, Bob Smith nor Lane could bring McInnis home, pop flies being put up by each of them to Stock and Johnston, respectively. As things turned out, the one run was enough.

MAY 5, 1944

BRAVES WIN FROM GIANTS, 3-2, IN 11th

By Dan Kane, The Boston Globe

It was a mad, hilarious and thrill-jammed game. A Braves' pitcher pinch-hit for the first baseman. Another pitcher batted third in the Boston hitting order. The Braves couldn't hit behind the superb pitching of Al Javery, yet behind the shaky hurling of Ira Hutchinson their humblest rookies become deadly sockers.

The Braves came from behind against the Giants in the eighth, then blew the lead in the ninth; and finally, as a grand climax, they won in the 11th on two-baggers by a couple of obscure substitutes who'd been kept on the roster for their fielding.

The names of the two-bagging rookies: Steve Shemo and Damon Phillips.

And the final score: Boston 3, New York 2.

Al Javery started on the mound for the Braves. For six innings he held the Giants helpless and went into the seventh at Braves Field yesterday in a scoreless deadlock against southpaw Cliff Melton of the Giants.

In the seventh Medwick banged one to deep left. Some left fielders would have nailed it, but Chet Ross barely missed the ball and it went for two bases. then Weintraub drove Medwick home with a single to right and the Giants were in front, 1-0.

In the last of the eighth Javery went out for a pinch-hitter.

Ross' Double Ties Score

But the boys almost won it for Jave in the last of the eighth. With one away, Holmes singled. Tobin pinch-hit for Macon and

walked. Then Ross came through with a double to left, scoring Holmes and tying the score. Workman slashed a single to right and Ben Geraghty, running for Ross, raced home to put Boston ahead, 2-1.

But in the ninth Hutchinson yielded singles to Ott, Medwick and Weintraub, knotting the score at 2-all. Weintraub's hit, his fourth in a row, left Medwick on third. And Jersey Joe would have scored the winning run on Lombardi's fly to center - had not Holmes cut down Medwick at the plate with a perfect throw from center field.

Buy the last of the ninth the Braves had used two men in every position but center and right fields. And Hutchinson was rocky.

In the last of the 11th sub second sacker Steve Shemo led off with a foul to Napoleon Reyes. Nap obligingly dropping it. Shemo then flied to right, not far from the foul line. Ott would have had it, but Ott - with a swollen ankle - had gone out for a pinch runner two innings before. Attempting to nail it, sub right fielder Bruce Sloan fell, ripped the cartilage in his right knee, and possibly ended his baseball career. But he didn't catch the ball and Shemo had a two-bagger. Ryan sacrificed him to third.

Then Phillips - who had got in at shortstop after Wietelmann retired for a pinch hitter in the seventh - lined a double to left, and the game was won.

NOVEMBER 25, 1951

CELTICS WIN FOUTH STRAIGHT, TROUNCE PHILLY, 103-75

Donham Sparks Attack; Only 3081 Show Up

By Jack Barry, The Boston Globe

Playing with a fervor and efficiency deserving of much larger attendances, the Celtics won their fourth game in the last five days, by beating Philadelphia, 103 to 75, before 3081 at the Garden yesterday afternoon.

In the co-attraction, the Cushing Hospital paraplegic veterans, using a split squad, featured as the "P.V.A.'s" defeated the wheelchair Clippers, 32 to 22, with Joe Villa getting 14 points.

Passing the century mark for the third time in the last four outings, the Celtics had little trouble, racking up 38 points in the third period, including 23 points in a 5-minute, 40-second span.

Arizin, Fulks Stopped

The Warriors, woefully beat at center despite the 18 points scored by rookie Neil Johnston, depended on their four stalwarts, Joe Fulks, Paul Arizin, George Senesky and Andy Phillip. Arizin, tired from playing the distance in nearly every game, was held to two field goals by Chuck Cooper. Fulks, with personal fouls, saw but 20 minutes of action all day.

The Celtics with Bob Dunham starring with his all-around floor play, sprang to a 24-15 first period lead and stretched this to a 37-29 half-time advantage, before they erupted in the third

period.

The game was removed from the monotonous category over the late stages by the comic antics of Bones McKinney and the spectacular shooting of Bob Cousy.

George Senesky was the standout visitor, keeping the Warriors from falling apart completely over the early stages. He scored 17 points.

The Celtics play an exhibition game at Burlington, Vt., tonight. Cousy will not make the trip being bothered by a heavy cold.

JANUARY 8, 1983

BRUINS PLAY IT AGAIN

By Francis Rosa, The Boston Globe

There is a certain rhythm that has engulfed the Bruins these days. They are playing every game as though it were a playoff game. And what better way to tune up for April?

They have now beaten Montreal twice in the Forum and are undefeated in three games this season in this former cemetery of Boston hopes.

Last night the Bruins checked Montreal for 40 minutes as the Canadiens have rarely been checked before in their own building.

The resulting 2-1 victory was a triumph for team defense, a triumph for clutch goaltending, a triumph for an attitude that coach Gerry Cheevers explains by saying, "These guys just don't want to lose."

Goalie Pete Peeters is the first to laud the team-defense syndrome. "The big thing is the defensemen stand up (opponents) at the blue line, the forwards come back and that enables me to handle the puck. We know that Montreal likes to dump the puck in and come in hard with two men, but I was able to fire it out and the guys got two goals (second period) and we defended that lead."

The defending of the lead came after Montreal had cut Boston's edge in half with a blistering third-period start. Now the game came through the middle of the period and there was pesty Mats Naslund, the Montreal rookie from Sweden, in the slot with the puck and his wings on either side of him.

"I was playing pass, I was playing shot. I was playing everything," said Peeters. "I was trying to make myself as big as I could." Naslund shot and Peeters "flew out my right pad as quick as I could."

That was Game Saver No. 1. Then with 2 minutes left in the game and only 14 seconds after the Bruins had shut off a Montreal power play, Peeters had Game Saver No. 2.

On that one, the Canadiens were setting up a play at the point "and one of our defensemen, I think it was Mike Milbury, moved a guy out from in front so I could see the shot (by Gilbert Delorme) from the right point. I saw it at the last second," said Peeters, who caught the puck with his glove in a lunging move to his left.

Then there was the opportunity for an old specter to turn up. The Canadiens pulled the goalie with 26 seconds to play. There would be no repetition of the first game here this season when Montreal tied the game with one second to play. No repetition - and with good reason.

The Bruins concentrated on "getting it to the blue line and

throwing it in and not getting an icing," according to Mike Krushelnyski. So the game ended the way it began, with the Bruins checking their way to the puck. They played that way in the first period and then scored twice in the second period.

Boston's first goal was a product of beating Montreal to the puck. The Bruins had a mixed-up line on the ice of Krushelnyski, Keith Crowder and Mike Gillis, who was called up yesterday from Baltimore to fill Peter McNab's place. (McNab has a shoulder separation.) The play started behind the goal with Gillis tapping the puck to Crowder and he in turn passing it to Krushelnyski in the slot. Goalie Rick Wamsley made a good save and turned the puck toward the left boards. Krushelnyski went after it, Crowder started out of the zone.

"Usually I know Barry Pederson is going to be around the slot," said Krushelnyski. "I just saw a black shirt and I passed it to him before I took a hit."

That's typical of the way the Bruins are playing - the forwards taking hits to make a pass. Crowder came back from his backchecking move, caught the puck and hit a backhand from low in the left circle that trickled in off Wamsley's pad.

Pederson scored Boston's second goal, a 50-footer from the middle of the ice, after Brad Palmer had tapped the puck to him. "I used (Montreal defenseman) Rick Green as a screen and shot it toward the goal," said Pederson. Wamsley was crouching, and the puck sailed up past his right shoulder.

Montreal's goal was scored by Naslund when he stole the puck in the right circle, spun to the slot and hit it past Peeters' left shoulder at 5 minutes into the third period.

The Canadiens attacked furiously early in the third period, getting nine shots at Peeters, but could get only three over the remaining 14 minutes.

The Bruins may well be nurturing the idea that they are a better team than Montreal, but as Brad Park said, "They don't take your ring sizes in January."

NOVEMBER 23, 1969

PATS HIT HIGH GEAR, RAP BILLS, 35-21

**4 Interceptions Throttle Buffalo; Taliaferro
Tosses 3 TD Passes**

By Will McDonough, The Boston Globe

On a picturesque day at Boston College's Alumni Field, the Patriots gave their faithful something to savor on the cold Winter days ahead.

Playing before a boisterous sellout gathering of 25,584 yesterday, the Pats put it all together to complete a furious 35-21 victory over the Buffalo Bills.

The game was one of the most wide open ever produced by the Pats on their home turf, and the crowd loved it all - particularly the running of Carl Garrett.

Garrett, staking a claim on rookie of the year honors, put this victory in the bank with a sparkling 44-yard TD run with 50 seconds left.

"He has to be a big choice for rookie of the year," saluted Buffalo head coach John Rauch. "Naturally I'd like to see our guy,

(O.J. Simpson) get it and there's still three games to go. But this Garrett is something."

Yesterday, almost all of the Patriots were something.

Offensively, Mike Taliaferro had one of his better days, firing three touchdown passes and setting up a fourth with his accurate pitching.

Defensively, the game was ultimately decided by four Boston pass interceptions.

"Our offense kept us in the game in the first half," said Pats' linebacker Jim Cheyunski, "and we kept our offense in the game the second half."

The Pats, riding Taliaferro's precision pitching, burst into a 21-7 lead in the second period, only to have the Bills tie it 21-21 in the third.

However, with the game up for grabs, the Pats punched over two fourth-period touchdowns to capture their third victory in their last four games - after six losses starting the season.

The Bills got some fine running from Simpson - 98 yards in 17 carries - but did all of their damage on the pitch-catch team of Jack Kemp to Haven Moses.

Moses caught TD passes of 48 and two yards, and had a 40-yard reception which set up the first Buffalo score.

Boston's wide tandem of Charles Frazier and Ron Selles matched Moses, though. Frazier had touchdown grabs of 34 and 24 yards while Sellers made a sprawling catch in the end zone for a score at the end of a 35-yard bomb from Taliaferro.

But eventually the game all boiled down to the final quarter.

With the score tied 21-21, Taliaferro hit Sellers with an 18-yard pass on the sideline. Linebacker Edgar Chandler came in late with a tackle, and the Bills were penalized 15 yards to their own 30. From here, on second down, Taliaferro sent Jim Nance over the middle on a crossing pattern.

The ball was a little off target, but Nance made a spectacular, one-handed juggling catch at the 20 and roared to the Buffalo three before being taken down. Two plays later he bulled his way through left tackle with the winning touchdown.

Buffalo had three more chances to tie it up in the fourth period but couldn't get inside the Boston 40.

The Pats took possession with two minutes to play, trying to run out the clock. But Garrett wasn't satisfied with a few yards. On third down at the Bills' 44, he took a handoff on a draw play, cut to the right sideline, cut back to the 25 and outraced three defenders to the goal line on one of the best broken field runs ever by a Patriot.

"I thought we still had a chance," said Rauch, "but that killed us."

To this point in the game had been scored, or set up, via the air.

The Pats, after the first of two Ed Philpott interceptions, scored on their first play from scrimmage. Philpott put the ball at the Bills' 34 when he picked off Kemp's first pass of the game. Taliaferro went right to work splitting defenders with a pass down the middle to Frazier. Frazier caught the ball at the four and spun in for the score.

The Bills bounced right back to tie it, 7-7. The big play was a 40-yard bomb to Moses down the right sideline to the Patriots one. Wayne Patrick knocked it in for the TD on first down.

Still in the first period, the Patriots drove 70 yards for a TD, putting them back in front, 14 to 7. This one came when Taliaferro, shut off from his primary receivers, fired to Frazier near the right sideline. Cornerman Butch Byrd came up looking for the interception at the Buffalo 15, but Frazier stepped in front of him and in one quick move twisted free to run the rest of the

way all alone.

The Pats, at 8:05 of the second, pulled ahead 21-7 on Sellers' great grab. The big end caught five passes for 102 yards, but this was his best. He started downfield at the Bills' 35 man-for-man with Booker Edgerson. Taliaferro lobbed the ball into the end zone, and Sellers made a diving catch even though he was pushed in desperation by Edgerson.

Buffalo, with Kemp having one of his better days, fought back for another TD before the half. The second Bills score came on a perfectly executed play, Kemp faked a run beautifully, allowing Moses to run into the open at the Boston 25. Moses took the pass on the run to complete a 48-yard scoring play.

The Bills tied the game mid-way through the third when they took over following a penalty at the Boston 35. A 19-yard pass to Marlin Briscoe and a 13-yard burst up the middle by Simpson moved it to the Pats' three.

The Pats held for three downs, but on fourth down Kemp went back to Moses for a two-yard scoring pass.

This gave the challenge back to the patriots who responded with a big fourth period to take the decision.

Boston Vintage Sports Flashback

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